



(6)

Oct 4 -

The difference between
the oaks between
San Diego and Banner
Canyon. Near San Diego
there are no oak trees.

Isopoc only a smallish
scrub oak with a leaf
not larger than one and
long while from bottom
up the real oak trees
have a leaf two inches
long and near Julian
oaks have leaves
sometimes six inches
long. Our camp ground
had at some places fairly
small Hemlock pine
oaks of two kind & cotton-
willow.

Oct 8

Camped last night ~~in~~ⁱⁿ
the Canyon near Banner
a pleasant night but
noticed nothing worth
noting except what
is on the preceding
page. This morning
things looked very
different to me my cold was
much better and a good
night's rest had made me
feel another woman. As
I rode down the rough
though beautiful road
I could not but admire
even more than usual
the Juniper wood. This I
protest against the name
Juniper for so beautiful

flower. "Solomon in
all his glory was not
arraided like one of these"
could be ^{well} said of this
flower, and unlike the
lily we know does not
require to be nursed
and cultured. Lilies
may mother toil or spin
but the pansy weed
will live ~~without~~ where
the dust is thickest. The
ground almost devoid
of moisture yet the
sun may glare down
on it yet the elegant
cup with their royal
edging will brighten
the wayside. Petasocra
was about the only

butterfly we saw untill
after we passed Bamier
then fortune favored us
and a small white one
lit on a ~~small tree~~
small plant. it proved
to be new to us and
one more was caught
also a skipper which
I do not know. I had
always thought that the
yucca was beyond the
capabilities of being
eaten by the cattle till
today. That I see if the
cattle can reach up to
the base of the leaf and
eat up wards they can
manage not to injure
themselves with the

sharp point, and when
they can so eat the leaves
it kills the plant very
many were killed in
that way on San Felipe
the cattle seemed to
travel somewhere about
six miles from the water
front that distance the
Yuccas were not so often
destroyed. It was ^{soon after} ~~at~~
that place we began to
look for a butterfly we
knew of that we wished
for our collection. we
saw many but such
a place it was as erratic
as a bat and would light
on a rock and so look

So like the rock we could
not see it. Then when it
was finally captured it
had a pleasant way of
slipping out of from
under the net. One
Jack rabbit a very few
chipmunks but not any
Le Conte Thrasher was
seen. One flock of quail
when we neared Masons
where we pitched camp
and set out traps in
hope of a good days
hunt to morrow for
butterflies.

Oct 9 -

At Mr. Marons called
La Puerta. The gate and
enclosed it is a place as
I will tell presently.
We spent the day hunting
butterflies and found
a number of to rare kinds.
One a large Mith like
Skipper (a Yucca Butterfly
that is not yet named
but the season must have
be past it best for the
most of them were badly
worn. Many more rare
Kinds of small ~~skippers~~
Hesperidae I found resting
on a plant in bloom
it had yellow flowers,
I can't get a few more

and a Killdeer...

The Pleasure of Camping

It is not all cakes and
ale even on a pleasure
camping trip. This same
evening it began to
blow as bed time came
on it blew a little
harder. However supper
was prepared under
difficulties. After getting
it cooked and on the
table we concluded that
if we wanted to eat
it without too much
dust we had better
carry it up a ~~small~~
bank we had already

carried every thing down
the bank so as to be able
to cook in a sheltered
spot we carried every
thing up and eat our
supper in the tent.

It blew considerably
at bed time but hoped
it would go down soon
so went to bed. Now our
tent had been set up
in a dirty yard where
goats and Indians
chickens dead cattle
and every kind of
rubbish that is collect
ed in a half Spanish
ranch we had strewn
the floor of the tent
but the refuse had
been banked up round

outside. As soon as
we were comfortable in
bed the wind began to
sweep round and under
the tent carrying this
afraid dirt and dust
in to the tent until
a thick cloud of this
malodorous stuff almost
stifled us besides whipping
the tent about so we thought
it would come down on

us. The weather steadily
improved. Till Frank
had to get up and
take the tent down
and we lay all night
covered up to suffoca-
tion the wind blowing
a gale every thing

covered with dust - if
we opened our eyes a
shower of sand cut-
in on them -

Oct-15

This morning the wind
if anything was worse
The dust hid the
mountains from sight
so Frank thought
we had better get out
we packed up I would
hold on to something
while Frank would
struggle round to
get something else in
place or hold the
cover down while it
seemed to have a
closed corner to blow

up and prevented things
from being tied up
at last we were ready
and I went to bid Mr.
Mason good bye and
was greeted with the
usual remark. "All
the years I have lived
here it has never blown
so hard we have never
had so bad a storm"
How is it I wonder we
always get in the worst
storm or the driest
year - ? But we had
to go down I am sure
the worst fall in the
State nothing could

have been worse than
that hill even Frank
owned that it was
rather a bad hill and
did not object to my
walking ~~on~~ I had
on a little shawl
tied on my head for
tho we had passed
over the ridge and had
the wind in our backs
it was impossible to
keep on a hat or sunbonnet
glad I was when the
wagon had slid down
that dreadful place
and we were at last
on the desert tho
Frank hardly calls
it desert yet Agave

Cactus Beata Mesquite
sage brush and the
first Tornes are
the vegetation we came
through today. A
jack rabbit to be
come there here and
a small flock of
doves. were the
only signs of life
we passed all morning
we did not go very
far. Bracuta the
name of a deserted
stage station we
staid there the rest
of the day I began
a sketch of the old
adobe house.

or rather an old sod
house. No one has
lived in it for years
except Bats which
on this day become
our lawful game
if anyone wants good
sport let them take
a butterfly net and
after dark go to just
such an old ruin
take a lantern
and catch bats. We
are some what used
to using a net and
one bat is the reward
of our skill. The way
this house was built even
the huge beams of timber
were dragged down from

Laguna Mountain by area
~~for~~ ~~ing~~ over a foot thick
square they are used as
ridge poles while small
trees are used for the
sides of the roof small
poles are crossed and
all are tied together
with cow hide that
has the hair still on
the walls are made of
salt grass sod the
roof was covered with
a layer of mud the
porch is supported by
salt grass sod pillars
only the are square
and at the present time
everything but columns
while cattle have

rubbed against them
till they are concave
in the middle: a queer
old place. I have no
doubt the scene of
many a tough
adventure. ~~Also~~

Not far away is a
grave in this lonely
spot some one who
evidently had left
friends behind him
for a white marble
stone looks ghostly
as far from human
inhabitant. A grave
yard always looks lone-
some how much more
so away out. over the
edge of the inhabited

world. That was not
the only lonely grave
we saw on that trip
by the road side
side by side in one
place were four long
heaps of stones marking
some forgotten and
unrecorded people.

Oct - 11th

A cold weary day
Cactus Occotea a plant
that is all thorns, stiff
pale blue, looking as you
are a little way from
it a pretty feathery
looking shrub almost
a small tree.

Some we saw were
in leaf. The leaves are
so small and incon-
spicuous unless you
picked a branch and
looked close you would
not see any leaves on
it at all. At noon
rested at Isalmetta
Spring. The little palms
that gave the name
to the spring have been
burnt down. but good
water. Is the great
Curry to be had here. I
saw only one kind of
Butterfly Aoberence
four or five specimens
and still I saw
several. It is not the

desert, We came
to Cresa Creek. The
Teams that passed
us at Valle Creta
were just pulling out.
Here was another kind
of house that people
live in a few Ocateca
Indians bound together
with hide while the
sides are filled in with
arrowweed and the
roof thatched with tules
here Frank preserved
two La Condes threshers
he shot that afternoon
Cocosa Creek is called
so from a kind of tules

that grows in the creek
bad water lot of hogs
very many Mosquitoes
which made me look
as if I had measles in
a day or two.

Oct 12

On this day we came
upon the real desert
all our cactus disap-
peared only a few shrubs
mostly Larrea. One
Gopher tail and
one or two *Yucca*
butterflies. What a
 queer place it is
this desert we have
left most of our
equipment and some

See more of the building
and rebuilding of
this old world of
ours here in this
barren place than
where the ground
brings forth its increase
here we see heaved
up mountains of
earth or sand in
which are water
worn boulders down
the sides we can see
the coarser pebbles
on great sheets as
they have ~~been~~
fallen and been
carried down by
rains. While all

along the washes
can be seen the
reforming of the
sand into sand-
stone again. One
thing struck me as
rather strange
when we think of
sedimentary formations
we think of it as
being formed under
the sea but here
it could be seen
quite plain forming
in the desert with
the aid of the least
quantity of water.
The sand will be
blown in a thin

layer over. In less
a small shower
will fall it forms
the sand and alkali
into a kind of clay
or mud. When it
dries it is a smooth
dry clay that is
ready for the same
thing to be repeated
in many places.
The cracks open
with the heat and
looks like sole
leather - as it curls
up and is about a
quarter of an inch
thick. Many miles
of this kind of
rebuilding of the

sand stone was found
another queer thing
is possibly a rabbits
dung get blown around
it gathers a little
dirt a shower rocks
it it blows around
again gathers a
little more till
it gets as large as
perhaps an oak
apple. Some such
are seen. Why is it
not possible that
stones are made in
this way? Further
along we came to
high banks in one

layer it is composed
of almost exclusively
of broken Oyster
shells whence come
they in this lonely
desert. We turned
off the main road
in the afternoon
over a road that
Frank had never
before and some
little anxious time
we could not tell
quite whether we
should strike water
or not. That evening
increasing anxiety

in the desert Twelve
Miles from water
24 to water is
serious reading
it seemed a long
time till we struck
a beach mark
and traveled
over what had
once been a
large lake on
part of the Colorado
river in some
places as white
with shells as if
would be after a
great hail storm
The shells were just
about the size of
hail too

on and on still
not knowing how
far the sun had
only near setting
~~there~~ once Frank
went to the top of
a mound to see
if anything in sight
was familiar to
him ~~was~~ nothing that
he could show a
near landmark
Presently a white
horse was sighted
~~there~~ had he got
there and ^{left} some
one in trouble

we asked one another
but when he came
near he showed
that he had not
been harmed
lately and was
in good condition
that made us think
water could not
be far off yet no
sign when suddenly
right in front of
us not more than
a mile away
showed up a most
beautiful lake
so close we that
we could easily
get there before

dark

Oct 13th

This lake this surprise
in the midst of an
arid desert with its
Pelicans cormorants
gulls ducks herons
and other water
birds is another of
the making and un-
making of the world
far up in the Sierra
Nevada the summer
sun melts the snow
which comes down
the Colorado river
and when the dry
season is on with
no rain for months
you hear the gushing

asked is the river
rising how about the
overflow? and the
river rises and flows
over some portion of
the desert - that country
ages ago was all under
water only the most
depressed spots are
filled up now each
year and this Salton
Lake is one of them
after filling this and
other lakes if the Colorado
overflow is very high
it fills Salton Lake
often the overflow runs
underground and
then there is water
only in Salton. Now

This same Colorado river
which name means
red brings down
vast quantities of
earth with it in suspen-
sion. The earth is so
fine that it is held in
suspension not only
in the river itself but
the lakes are thick with
the mud of the Sierra
Nevadas and all these
hills that we saw cross-
ing the desert and the
dry lake with so many
shells is composed
of the earth from
the distant Sierra Nevada.
The water the last we saw
is good and cold yet
one cannot quite

fancy drinking such
muddy. It takes days for
the water to clear if it
is standing. And the look
of course is for ever
moving the wind caus-
ing the waves to
ripple on the shore
like the sea. All this
day was spent in
hunting butterflies and
beetles but very few
were found. Frank
shot two quail a
La Compe thrasher
a hawk a rare towhee
and a cock we hoped
we should have plenty
ducks to eat but so
far very few have

beaver seeds and some
shot. Traps were put
out for coons cats
and Coyotes with one
Coyote as the result.

Oct 14

I went with Frank
to look up the traps
and coming home
a small butterfly
flew in my net
and on examination
seemed to be quite
new to me being a
rather case of the early
bird catching the
butterfly during

The day several were
caught and one or
two other small rare
ones, but the only
plentiful kind seems
to be exilis. This
afternoon I went
gathering mesquite
beans for the horses
for the first time. The
beans are the ripe dry
beans that have fallen
off the bushes and
they are as easy to pick
up as if one crawled
under a blackberry
bush wherever you
anything grows in

this desert you may
be sure that it is thorny
and the thorns are
thick on the ground
under as well as
on the bushes.

This evening one of
those small accident
happened that might
have turned out

very serious one of
our horses was taken
sick in itself

a very serious thing
away from help
nearly a hundred
miles But Frank
trying to hold him

down to give him some
medicine was overed
powered by the horse
and as he struggled
to get up struck
Frank in the mouth
with his head cutting
Frank's lip badly
for a few minutes I
thought Frank was
struck in the stomach
A hurt man and a
sick horse for company
all night would have
been anything but
pleasant but as it
turned out both
man and beast

Soon recovered.

Oct 15 -

Up early and nothing
in the traps so we
decided to pull out
for the calf holes so
was on the road by
Quarter past eight
and at a Quarter past
ten reached the calf
holes. This desert is
full of surprises
we had not gone
over half a mile
when our lovely
Little Pelican Lake
was completely out of
sight which shows
how easily one can
be quite near water

and yet miss it. The
ground was perfectly
level and smooth
so far then we struck
what is called the
self rising ground
have you ever looked
at a pan of bread
sponge after it has
risen well it is
full of cracks and
bubbles as the gas
rises well this ground
is just like that only
it is baked hard but
looks funny and as
you can imagine so
not smooth driving
over tho the plain its-
self or rather bed

of ancient lake is
~~level~~ level. That it
is the bed of a lake
is still quite plain
for there is still many
shells chiefly Union
and they seemed to
be larger and more
perfect on this side
tho that may be only
fairly. After crossing
this bed we came
upon a forest of
Mesquite trees with
shallow channels
that could be seen
more by the figs and
growing in them
than by the depres-

Then I must say I
admire the Mesquit
bush or tree very
much it has a very
even round look.
The branches spread-
ing out close to the
ground and a
pleasant green look
where every thing
else has a dried up
dusty look. Altogether
it is a handsome tree
but of the thorns.
There was no life to
be seen in all that
forest not a butterfly
Frank saw something
run across the road
and at one place tracks

of quail after coming
through we came to
New River, like some
rivers no water runs
in it at least in
that place. The water
runs there most
years about the month
of May June and
July. This year
it ran till August
Altho the water does
not run there is
plenty of water in
it quite deep holes
in many places
have water in them
the water must
rise from under
ground. And a

Strange thing about
them is that some
are good water & will
perhaps a hole above
and below will
be so bad ~~so~~ that
~~so~~ it is unfit even
for the horses to drink
There is no telling
what kind of water
it is only by tasting.
Yesterday evening
some young men
of passed they were
going on to the railway
about sixty miles on
and expected to stay
until noon to day
at a the calf holes
we hoped to get there

before they left so
that they might carry
a letter and post it
on the ~~mail~~ train
as there is no mail
on the desert and
once there all com-
munication with
our friends ceases
unless some lucky
eccedent as above
When we arrived
at the calf holes
we found they had
started on again
so as there seemed
nothing of interest
there we turned
back and ~~wandered~~
by the side of

a Mesquit tree had
a cold lunch for
we tasted the water
at a hole close by and
decided that the
horses had better
go thirsty than drink
it ^{under} some Mesquit
trees. we found
quantities of
Mesquit beans
and Frank and
I gathered a sack
full for the horses
for ~~it~~ we cannot
travel the desert
without a sharp look
out for horse feed
and water and

grass is conspicuous
by its entire absence
a little Pig weed
in these lake channels
and some giant
grass on the desert
west side of the
desert. We came
back to the crossing
of new river and
set up camp put
up the tent and
Frank went out
to set traps as
he thought this is the
most likely place
to get corns and
wild cats & after
he got back we
went to a mile long

Spool to try the water
and this water was
quite good not very
clear but sweet

~~Now~~ game butterflies
in sight once or
twice we heard

quail and once
saw a flock of
ducks! but that
was all. Today

for the first time we
saw San Jacinta
and a little of Grey
back both had snow
on the top

Oct 16 -

This morning Frank
found one coon in

his traps he also ^{shot} caught
four ducks. during
the day he caught three
small fish that and
one batle that he picked
up on the waters edge
comprises the sum total
of our days returns.

And the day as passed
without any event to
narrate I spent most
of the day painting on
my picture of Valle-
corta while Frank
preserved his skins
While I am writing
beside the camp fire
the almost full moon
over head not a breath
of wind all so calm

The only thing we can
hear is a night heron
with its sharp short
bark. The first time
I heard them at
Relecan Lake there
were three or four
together barking
at the same time. I
thought it was a dog
happy is the notion
than that here no
history and to day
I can say that of this
bright calm day perhaps
I enjoy the calm all the
more because we have
had so much wind.
The first five days we
came out

Oct 14th

A wild cat in Frank's
traps, not enough
to make it worth
while to stay here
any longer so we
made up our minds
to pull out at noon.
Frank caught three
fish last night one
carp and one other
kind of fish we
had them for
breakfast and
dinner for dinner.
This place beside
the bed of New
River looks very
pretty for a

picture but I do
not like it so well
as Pelican Lake. There
is no entomological
junk at all a few
little earth colored
beetles found among
the Mesquit beans is
all that I have seen
as some time not
a great while ago
probably 1891 the
water rose up and
covered all the ground
where we have our
camp and after -
wards Pig weed
grew to a great height
some of the bleached

stalks being as thick
as my wrist the
ground is covered
with the dead stalks
The chief things around
here is Mesquite
Night Herons all
of which seem to
be young. Plenty
Coyotes Wild cats
Wrens ^{and} fish. I want
took a photograph
of our camp. after
which we pulled
out. Now we
drove back through
the forest of Mesquite
Now Unless you

have a very large
bump of locality
don't go off the
cracked roads when
on the desert for
if you do you will
get lost sure Frank
is so blessed and
besides has been on
the desert many
times so after leaving
the mesquite forest
pulled off the road
to cross country to
get to duck lake
which he knew was
somewhere to the

South and east
of Pelican Lake
he had never been
that way to it before
so did not know
exactly how far
we should have to
travel possibly
about seven miles
after going some
distance we came
to a channel full
of water with
a good many
ducks on it
Frank shot ~~three~~
two and they both
lay dead in the

middle to now how
to get them out was
the question. The
way he did it
was not the way
it would have been
advisable had there
been any young
ladies present indeed
had there been
gentlemen I think
he would have
had to forego the
pleasure of duck
for supper at any
rate I got my ducks
and picked them
too as we drove along
Now as we drove

along we found
that this line came
from Pelican Lake
and was one of
the channels that
connected Pelican
Lake with New
River so there was
nothing for it but
to go to Pelican Lake
drive round the lake
to the south side and
then east to get to
Duck Lake. It was
all across country
with the only knowledge
that somewhere

in that direction we
ought to find the
lake and would
be sure to find
sand dunes. Sand
dunes are not good
driving over. We
drove perhaps
two miles when
we came right on
to the dunes and
Frank went on
top of the highest
to look over the
country. No lake
in sight. We crossed
over to the eastern
part and came

Some Mesquite
trees that looked
as tho they grew
along one of the
channels after getting
close up to them
a little parting
in them showed
a little water
and as we began
to force our way
through them there
lay duck lake right
at our feet not a
sign of it could be
seen twenty feet
away and so far
as Frank knew
was as yet

four or five miles
away. Frank wanted
to find some grass
for the horses and
peeping through the
trees was something
green so we forced
our way through
mesquite trees not
easy thing nor short
as like everything
else on this desert
it is made up of thorns
however we got through
and found nothing but
pigweed and Burr
dock but the horses
were hungry they

do not seem to care
much for Mosquit
bears and they be
gan to eat the dock
at once. However that
was not good enough
for them if we could
get any thing better
So again we had
to force ourselves
through the mesquit
to get down to the
shore again. We found
a nice place for camp
but nothing better
for the horses so
Frank gave them

a bunch of our much
treasured hay for if
they have grain alone
it does not satisfy
them and they bring
for hay. There seems
to be many more
ducks on this duck
lake than on Pelee
Lake also more
shore birds or
waders. The lake also
is I think in some
ways rather prettier.
The hills around
show up better and
to night I saw them
and the lake lit
up most gorgeously

a very brilliant red
sky reflected in the
water till water and
sky looked like for
the far away mountains
a beautiful soft
purple the farthest
range looking as
tho a thin light
veil was held up
before it making
it look lighter. The
the range in the
front of it on the
top of one of these
hills is the boundary

of California and Mexico
but this is a digression
I was talking about
the sunset many
people have seen
such scenes and
many have dis-
credited them and
so I leave further
description of sun-
set on the lake to
them. My mind
had to be engaged
on more practical
things for there was
supper to get.

Oct 18

Nothing at all in

The traps this morning
I thought we would
return to our first
beve Pelican lake
more particularly
so as there is no
food for the horses
and the water is
not drinkable.
I went for a walk
with Frank when
he took the horses
to try to find some
little grass for them
did not see any
butterflies on the way
went as far as

The sand dunes these
dunes seem to be
all on the south and
east side while the
north and west
are without them
What is the reason
is it because of the
winds but there
is no sand to
make dunes of
only on the east
and south all
around whole country
it seems to be good
ground perhaps
somewhat alkali.

but still good
Colorado much such
as I have described
before. Well we pulled
out after dinner
and soon came on
just a few smallest
plants along the shore
as we drove that was
just covered with
little butterflies. I
got out of the wagon
and caught most
of them and all
our butterflies marked.
Duck Lake was taken
on these few plants

Frank tried for a
while but missed
as we neared the
corner of the lake
Frank shot a duck
on the wing it proved
to be one that he
had not in his col-
lection. It is always
a red letter day
with us if we get
a new specimen
it improved our
opinion of duck
lake we went along
a small dry channel
for some distance Frank
looking out to see

how we could get
out and out east
we came out right
against the sand
dune that I can't
looked out on yesterday
and thus we avoided
driving through
the dunes and if
we had known we
not have driven through
them before. We
made Pelican Lake
in little over half
an hour. We caught
only a few Butterflies

that day. Frank found
he had forgotten one of
his rat traps and decided
to walk back for it after
breakfast next morning.

Oct- 19 -

We have decided to
start back for home
at noon today as
we found nothing in the
traps again this morning
so while Frank walked
back for his wire trap
I packed up as much
as I could and there
was some little grass
growing in patches
which I picked pulled
and as Frank had
pulled some too we
made a nice large
bundle of it for the

Horses to take along
with us. How little
treasure I have found
on this trip of ours.
This morning seems
the only time that I
have really had time
to stand for a minute
or two to look at the
lake and as I hence
stood there I have for
the first time seen the
carps jump out of the
water. They seem very
active this morning
a good many seem to be
on the jump. Frank was
just about an hour
and a half gone. And
we soon after left.
On the return to the

Same road we came,
It is about five miles
to the old beach mark
and while Mesquite
grows below the beach
mark nothing grows
above it for miles
but Larrea and a
dried up looking
bush about one or
two feet high include
the Larrea does not
grow more than
about four foot
and not very close
together. A drive
lonely drive a great
many old shells are
till the beach is reached
but I only saw two
kinds a union and

one bivalve about
half an inch long
tho I did not examine
the ground and it
seems quite likely
that the small shell
that I found round
the lake would be found
there too I did not
see any signs of a
living shell. Today
is our longest drive
without water and
we have to make a
dry camp to night.
So we drive rather
late for the last few
miles we pass over
ground that is almost
without vegetation

not any that can
be used for a fire.
The moon ~~was~~
rose before we reached
wood. our chief want
in going to the top
of a little rise what
should we see in front
of us but a camp
fire. what speculation
there is in that on
a lonely desert drive
who are the people
shall we enjoy their
company or shall
we be glad to drive
pass them do we
know them. or
is it an Indian
outfit? such were

the thoughts we ask
ourselves and each
other as this bright
light flickered before
us. Some one that
knows the desert I saw
said for they have
come just as far as
there is wood for
there fire. As we come
up to them they prove
to be one solitary man
he asked if we could
spare him a little
water and as he spoke
Frank recognised
him to be a man who
knew the desert well
and ~~see~~ he was in
what so many would

be serious trouble
and to some perhaps
death. Riding horse
back with one
blanket and a small
canteen of water
his horse had fallen
ill. He had given
his last water to
his horse in hopes
that it would be
able to carry him
to the next watering
place. But had
fallen by the way
We were soon
unloaded and
supper ready.
The horses had
to share just a
half bucket of water.

each and some
Mesquit beams and
the grass he pulled
in the morning made
them as comfortable
as circumstances
allow. Then to bed.

Oct 25

Our Compañero
started directly after
breakfast driving
his sick horse still
hoping to get it to
water. We started
perhaps one hour
and half afterwards
we soon came up
to them and then
happens what as so
often been done by

fore the poor horse
had to be left to
get on as best he
could either to lay
there and die or
struggle on alone
to winter. Our
Friend proved to be
quite interesting. Many
interesting things he
told of desert life. He
had also explored the
mountains round
for many years. He
told us the blocks of
Marble we saw in
the washes had come
from Quassa Mountain
also that balls of
black stone which he
called Petroleum

balls were found on
the desert he told
us where we could
find some very large
~~Refined~~ fossil shells
and Isclified wood
and of some Indian
canyons. All these
things have to be
taken with a grain
of salt. Many gave
some stages he told
as well. The day
was quite hot and
early in the after-
noon the horses be-
gan to lag. George
our own horse has been
on the desert so often
that he can. rattle

Up a living but the
borrowed horse could
not do so well so he
began to jolay out
a bad sandy road
all day at last I and
our friend set out to
walk to help along
and lighten the load
but whereas we wished
to get to Cressa Creek
we had to stop at
Palmeta Spring and
half of our treasured
hay had to be given
up while George
had to make out
with Giant Grass
which he then
chopped up with the
hatchet and carried

to him

Oct. 21 -

After breakfast I took a photograph of the clay cliffs that rise up around Jalamela spring and off once more I still showed signs of being tired but Frank saw that he was taking advantage of yesterday's numerous stoppages and worked to do the same again and had no objection to George pulling most of the load. Still we only made nine miles to Vatta.

where Our friend
found some Monkey
that belonged to him
so after having
dinner with us moun-
ted one of them and
rode home which
was six miles. I sat
and put in a little
more to my painting
of the old house that
afternoon and
we hunted for a little
time in the evening
for bats in the old
house. Frank caught
one of the rare kind
also one of a very
rare kind indeed
and so to bed. But
here I must say

I left out some of our
happenings of yesterday
the 20th We drove to
Cresca Creek before
lunch watered the
horses and a horse
man rode up soon
afterwards. He was
more picturesque
than is allowable
in ordinary life
on the stage. He
would have been
perfect. To begin
at top a description
at top of him he had
on a old sombrero
that had cost the \$5
still it was nearly
faded off with

a few tufts of bright
red hair sticking out
of ~~it~~ where the top had
been the hat had been
burned with a silver
band but it was very
much the worse for wear
a leather strap near
an inch wide held
it on and passed
over his chin half
burned in a thick
growth of sandy
bristles over half
inch long still
he had a very pretty
face with blue
eyes and was not
by any means
bad looking.

a shirt of ~~rough~~
blue with a pistol
a good foot long
with ^{fingered} leather chaps
His horse had reins
of horse hair rope
and another horse
hair rope was
hung on the saddle
He had just come
from Mexico which
is just over the
mountains and
was an acquaintance
of our friend and
was a good very
good fellow by
our friends account
He promised if
possible to go

back and bring over
the poor abandoned
horse to water if
it should be able to
come so far! These
Vacaros are a very
rough lot of people
indeed and from
what I can hear
are more fond of
doing a mean ac-
tion than a kind-
ness I only hope
that this one will
do so much kindness
it will redeem the
bad name ^{longer that} they all
seem to deserve

Oct 22

It is five or six
miles now to La
Puerta still deep
sand. but Ocotea ^{as well as}
Larrea and cactus
Frank took a picture
of the bad hill I walked
up it the wind began
to blow and I feared
we should have
a storm on our
return as on our
departure however
it turned out somewhat
better I think every
one was very pleased
to see us back at
La Puerta especially
the cats and chicken

we were no sooner
in that dirty yard
than we were perfectly
over run with cats
the chickens (some the
mark) were in the
wagon or after getting
a few things out and
taking a whip to them
we covered every thing
up as snug as we
could but in less
than a minute I
turned round and
found half a dozen
knowing chickens
had pecked a large
hole in our sack of
wheat and there
beaks were just

dancing in and out,
soon things were strait
up a bit and I got
in one little butterfly
hunt and found one
at least nice little
brown butterfly
I fried some quail
for supper and as
I stopped down for
a piece of wood
to renew the fire
an artful old
deceit of an hen
pecked out one of
my quail from
out the frying
pan as it was on
a hot fire I also
lost the quail too

open while I passed
from it to the table
and while so doing
a dear jowly cat
crept under the
side of the tent and
whipped off the best
part of a can of
corned beef. However
these things are little
diversions that keep
things lively. Traps
set and we to bed.
When we camp out
one is scarcely able
to keep Sunday as
a day of rest and
this day was passed
with almost forgetful-
ness of it. To get to

Water it is the all
absorbing theme it
is the chief thought
almost the sole topic
of conversation with
whenever you meet
I What wonderful
things could be done
with this dreadful
desert if there was
water. From Barro
to La Puerta is 18
miles and ~~and~~ with
about one ~~corn~~ stony
canyon is beautiful
level ground
good soil and if
it had water would
grow anything you
can see the gentle

Slopes going miles
away on each one
side gently resting
against the Mountain
feet. From La Parent
to Vallecula five miles
has some good ground
Vallecula itself
has plenty of water
and looks lovely and
green as you come
to it from the desert
side but has not
one acre cultivated
From Vallecula to
Cresca Creek is 18 miles
that has not much
agricultural land
From Cresca Creek to
Pilecan Lake is

24 Miles some of
that is good soil
some is light poor
soil while near the
hills is mostly sand
From Pelican Lake
to the calf holes as
far as we went 6 miles
was mostly good
soil. But want of
water debar even
the poorest kind
of living not one
home with the
exception of La Poudre
all that way and
it is the same till you
reach Yuma so I am
told.

Oct- 23

Went out in the morning
with the youngest
daughter of the house
to hunt for arrow
heads. There must
at some former time
have been many hundred
of Indians living
in that valley and
like all Indians they
lived quite a way
from the water that
is noticeable every
where that the water
must be plentiful
and easily got at
the Indians never
lived very near but
prefer to carry

water for their use
Great quantities of
broken glass were
seen and a few arrow
heads were found one
that we picked up was
made from a piece
of plate a little
of the glass with
a blue pattern being
left on on one side.
I suppose that shows
the deterioration of
the art of making
the heads. We also
found some pieces
of shells probably
carried there by
from the sea a
few *O. levela* *propheta*

and we found two
of kind of beads made
from shells probably
from *C. biplicata*.
hardly a butterfly
was seen Frank got
one of the Agave butterfly
which I expect will
be the last we shall
get. We saw a few
on Oct 24 but did not
get one. in the after
noon the dogs got
~~a badger~~ and on
Sunday the dogs
caught a badger
and Frank skinned
it today as he has
been disappointed
in going on a deer

hunt. I had for my
dinner to day one quail
one rail and one
snipe. The three was
not more than I was
able to eat for myself.
Frank preserved
the snipe and some
mice that he caught.
It was a cold evening
and our friends
asked us very
strongly to come
up to the house
and spend some
time as the weather
was cold. I did
not get my work
finished till quarter
passed seven but

we thought it only
polite to go but when
we got there they
were all gone to bed
I suppose those
are desert manners

Oct 24

@ SKUNK and
some mice want
our harvest this
morning and as there
seems no chance of
a deer hunt we de-
cided to clear out
altho in some re-
spects this is an
very interesting
place still it is
so dirty and the

chickens turkeys
pigeons cats and
dogs are so numer-
ous and hungry

They would eat us
I believe if we lay
down quiet I shall
be glad to get away
but I have seldom
seen more kind and
sociable people. We
left about one o'clock
and drove a little
way into the sand
fescue valley. In
Grata Flat dry lake
or Clair valley as
it is variously called
we shot some

grated grass for the
horses. We saw one
or two Agave Butterflies
but did not catch any
in San Francisco the 1st day.
In San Felipe valley
we come to the first
Juniper on our re-
turn home. There
may be a few in drug
Lake. Set traps, supper
and to bed.

Oct 25

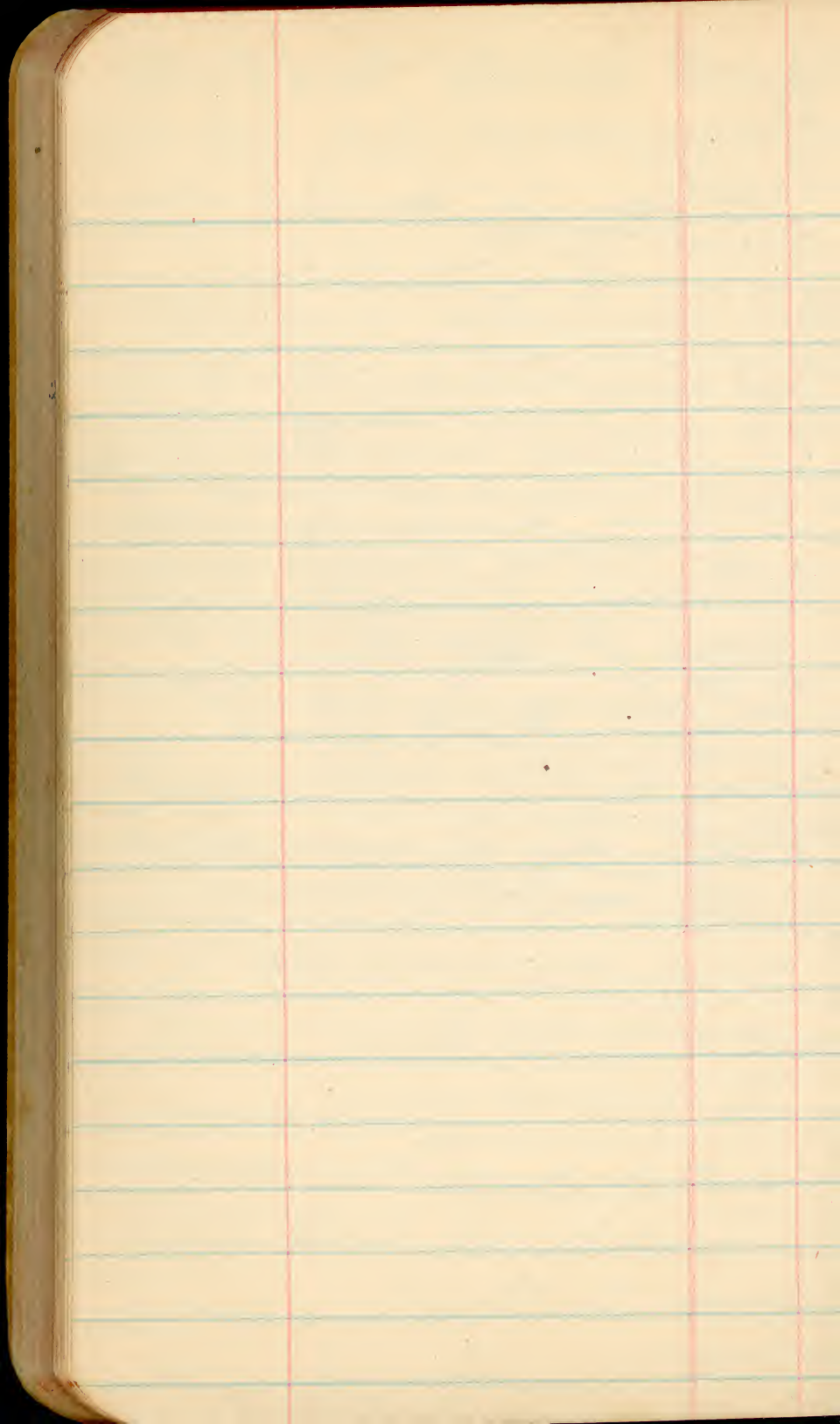
This day is the last
of our very pleasant
desert trip and
we drive through
very striking differ-
ence of vegetation. In
the morning Agave
Sarcocolla Mesquite Cactus
Yucca
then as there descend

in ~~Others~~ juniper
desert willow cat-
claw Mesquite. Then
Mountain alder
~~Aspen~~ sycamore
oaks, Spruce, Pine,
Manzanita & take
there place. All of
these were seen on
this days drive but
the most particular
of these trees as to
altitude seems to
be juniper - for
if you go only a
little to high or low
you will not see on
tree while on a
comparatively steep
elevation is the
about half way

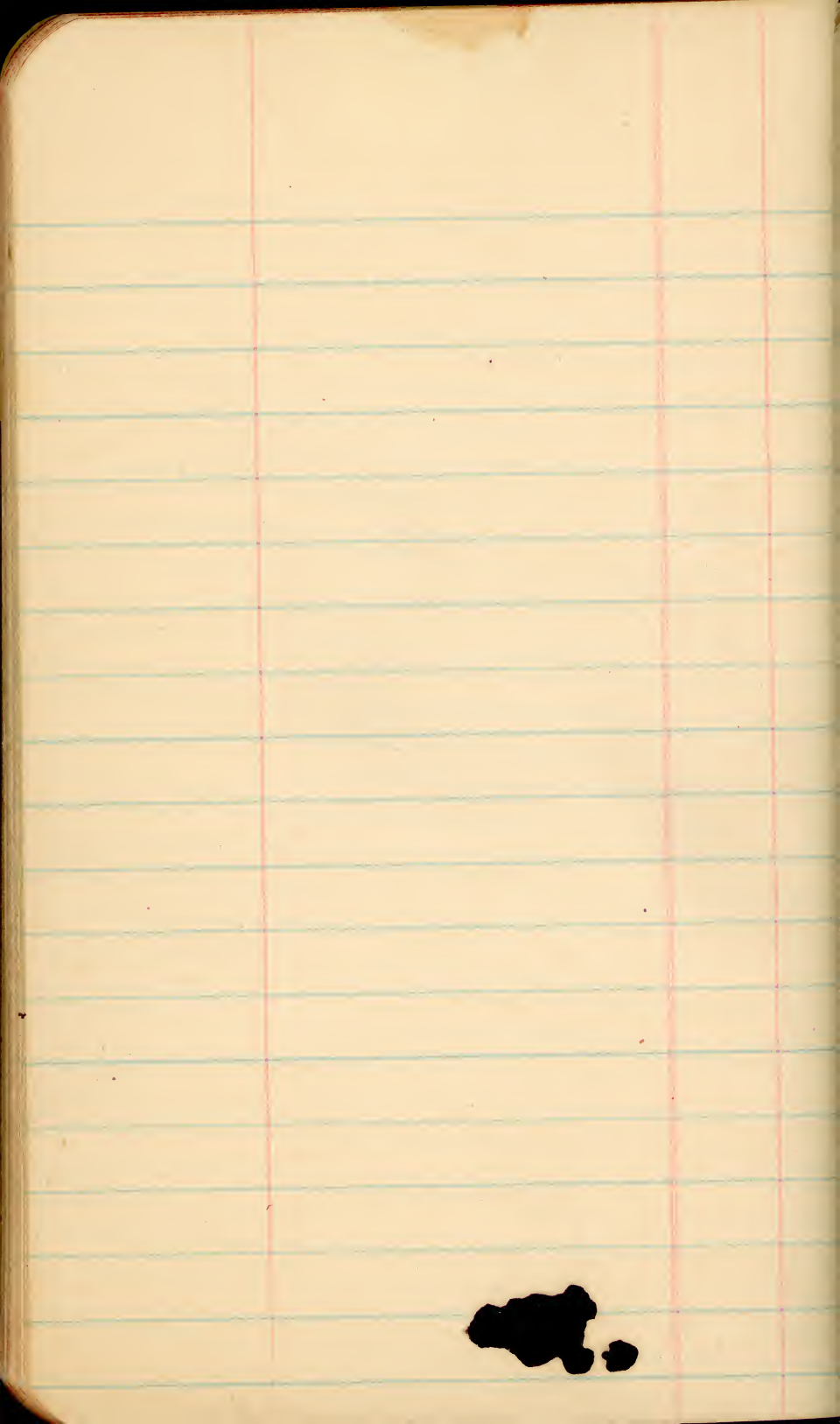
across San Felipe
valley it grows thick
and is almost the
only tree there. As
we left the San Felipe
valley we ~~co~~ stopped
for dinner close
to an ~~off~~ alfalfa
Patch where we hoped
to find butterflies
and two or three
of a small almost
white kind that
I think new to
our collection were
baged we found
two of this kind
the day we passed
down to the desert
we found it very
cold as we reached
Julian and for

The first line wish-
ed for great coats. We
passed through the
town without seeing
~~anyone~~ a familiar
face and until dark
and only a few miles
from home was re-
ceived no greeting.
When we passed a
man who sometimes
takes care of the lumber
ship we asked him
if ~~or~~ anyone was
there and if there
was any meat to
be had and was
told that the door
was unlocked and
knives saw and


lamp would be found
there and we had
better go right in
and take what
we wanted which
we accordingly did
so home in the dark
super and to bed
which winds up
my first desert
trip but if I
can help it will
not be my last



*The following
55 pages are
blank.*



June 1888

Colorado desert  the editor made a collection of the fresh water shells in a tub from the state that are found there in such numbers over portions of the desert. *Amnicola forsteri*, could also be found by the miller and several quarts of this small shell were easily gathered - detached up off the ground where the corn had been sown together. With them were numerous others, some of *Amnicola forsteri*, *Strophomena californiana*, *Strophomena*, *Strophomena* and others of *Physa* and *Planorbis* were also abundant. West American desert

Aug. 1889.

"Red water - Astoria of pale - adan
formations called 'Porcello' from
West American Scientist - May
1887.

Yucca eliptica: known as note
Blair. American Scientist Aug 1891.

Chilopsis colima - The Great Willows
West American Scientist Feb 1891

Forguera Johnson: The candle
word or Porcello of the Mexicans

With goat. Hilaria rigida as
is the same indicates it is a
hard underlying grass which will
break better than sand.

Canals Coals.

Recent and sub-fossil shells
of the Colorado desert - in
choosing the location of the

New York

103 E. 19th Street

Walter W. Munroe

Raymond C. Cohn

